

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

August 2, 2006

The Honorable Michael Chertoff
Secretary
Department of Homeland Security
Washington, DC 20528

Dear Secretary Chertoff:

Congress is aware that protecting homeland security is a burden, logistically and financially, being borne not just by government, but by hundreds of non-profit organizations that are also potential terror targets. Museums, hospitals, religious institutions, and other organizations are being forced to spend thousands, if not millions, of dollars protecting themselves.

Yet months after Congress allocated \$25 million to help non-profit organizations install security measures like cameras and barriers, your department has failed to release the money, citing no credible threats against nonprofit institutions.


Last week a gunman attacked the Jewish Federation of Greater Seattle, wounding five women and killing one. He justified the attack by saying he was "angry at Israel," confirming that federal assistance is needed now more than ever.


Hours after the shooting in Seattle a synagogue in Queens, New York was firebombed. While nobody was hurt in this attack, police departments across the country are on high alert and have increased patrols around Jewish institutions.

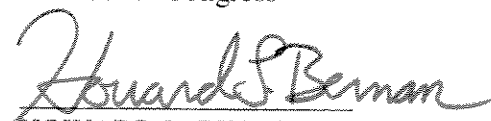
Your department has an abysmal record when it comes to distributing funding on the basis of threat, and as a result, the places most likely to be targeted have been shortchanged.


We urge you to make sure that there are no further delays, and that the grants are distributed immediately and on the basis of threat – and threat alone.

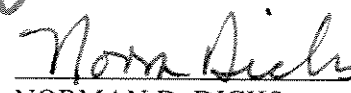
Sincerely,

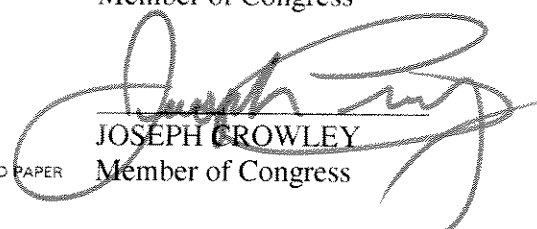

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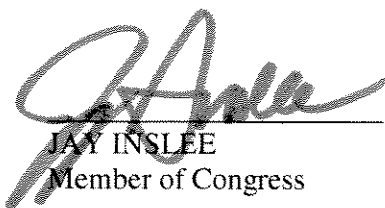

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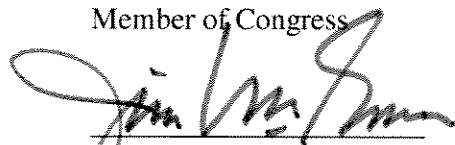

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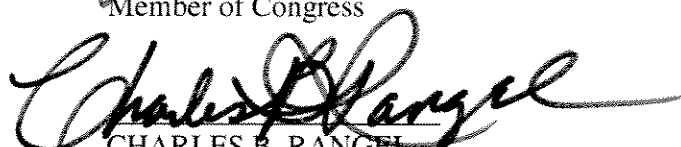

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Member of Congress



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Member of Congress

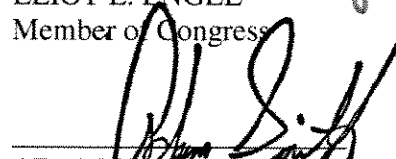

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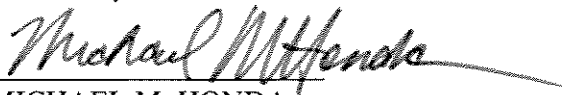

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